

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-03

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DRAFTED BY: ARA/LA:GECHAFIN

APPROVED BY: ARA:GECHAFIN

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P 281511Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 123499

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS

FOLLOWING IS REPEAT PORT OF SPAIN'S 1265, MAY 26, ACTION
SECSTATE

QUOTE UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 1265

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TD, US

SUBJ: IMPROVEMENT IN U.S.-TRINIDADIAN RELATIONS

1. DURING A FORMAL DINNER GIVEN AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE BY GOVERNOR GENERAL SIR ELLIS CLARKE IN HONOR OF AMBASSADOR MILLER MAY 21, SIR ELLIS TOASTED THE AMBASSADOR AS HAVING "REVOLUTIONIZED" RELATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND TRINIDAD DURING HIS TENURE HERE. SIR ELLIS REPEATED THE TERM "REVOLUTIONIZED" SEVERAL TIMES, AND NOTED THAT, WHILE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAD NEVER BEEN REALLY BAD, AND WE CONSIDER OURSELVES MEMBERS OF A "FAMILY", NEVERTHELESS THERE WERE SOMETIMES FALLINGS OUT WITHIN A FAMILY AND THE MILLERS HAD CHANGED ALL THAT.

2. SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS WARMLY EFFUSIVE STATEMENT IS THAT IT WAS MADE IN THE PRESENCE OF MOST OF THE OTHER AMBASSADORS AND HIGH COMMISSIONERS RESIDENT IN PORT OF SPAIN, SOME OF WHICH ARE KNOWN NOT EVEN TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MEET
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WITH THE PRIME MINISTER SINCE THEIR ARRIVAL.

3. COMMENT: AMBASSADOR MILLER WAS RELUCTANT TO
REPORT SUCH A PERSONAL ACCOLADE PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE, BUT
I BELIEVE IT WAS SIGNIFICANT AS A REMARKABLY POSITIVE
SEMI-PUBLIC STATEMENT BY THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO'S
GOVERNOR GENERAL TO AN AUDIENCE WHO WOULD INDEED TAKE
NOTE OF THE HIGH REGARD IN WHICH RELATIONS WITH THE
USG WERE HELD. RICH UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

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